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# The Canadian Railroader Weekly

Official Organ of

THE FIFTH SUNDAY MEETING ASSOCIATION OF CANADA

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## POLITICAL PHENOMENA

Extraordinary gyrations of the political whirligig in Ontario have been productive of political phenomena as colorful and variegated, as mystic, and as strange as the northern lights which occasionally blaze up in the path of the night just when our eyes are becoming accustomed to the darkness.

It is apparent that conservative liquor advocates, and liberal prohibitionists, veteran soldiers, and anti-conscription laborites, and farmers, corporation lawyers, blazing socialists, and then what not, voted for prohibition then voted against the man who was its champion, electing a man who had liberal views on the liquor question. The Ontario Government was a slam bang war to the finish organization, loyal to the last degree, and yet the soldiers, thousands upon thousands of them voted it out of office. The labor programme of Sir William Hearst has probably been the most progressive of any of the provinces, yet the labor party and the farmers' organization co-operated to defeat all comers. The two make strange bed fellows. There has been no more bitter opponent to the modern labor programme than the farmer. There has been some abuse of child labor on the farms. There is violent opposition to the decasualization of labor by the farmer, because this kind of labor is convenient to his use. Yet we find they are linked together in blissful contemplation of each other.

Those of us who dwell in the city have reasons for apprehension. We remember the farmer's peculiarly selfish outlook

during the stress and storm of the war. When the world was crying for food, we remember frantic demands that would restrict the profits of others but in each instance they demanded immunity from such legislation. He frankly avows that true patriotism consists in generous production, but he insists upon a very substantial price for his products. The legislation he

proposes adequately provides prosperity for the farmer, but but no thought is expended or wasted on the man who does not happen to reside on his broad productive acres. Nationalization of railroads, restriction of profits, price fixing, cheap and casual labor, child labor, tariff reduction, free trade, are all highly acceptable to the farmer. All of which entitles us to a little rumination.

It must be quite obvious that the routine and the life of the agriculturist is quite simple as compared to the intricate, com-

plicated and delicate adjustments which are so closely identified with the daily life of the city dweller. The fixed routine of the country life, its methods and regularity, and the definite factors that constitutes the day on the farm are infinitely simple as compared to the thousand-and-one cross currents which whirl about the city dweller in the pursuit of a day's business. It is quite natural, therefore, that neither one nor the other can calmly adjudge the difficulties confronting the other fellow. We all have visions of farmers leaving their strongholds on tours of adventure to the buzzing metropolis, standing in the middle of a street car track and frantically waving the dependable bumper-shoot at a speeding trolley car. This is only one of the episodes which will enliven his experience before he returns to Hazeville. Be it remembered that the farmer of our time is not the confiding individual the goldbrick merchant, or the wire-tapping mechanics, found. Remember he doesn't need a body guide to pilot him through the crystal mazes of the city. It is more than likely that the metropolis will find a place for him, furnish him with enjoyments which will both make his trip profitable and interesting provided he doesn't undertake to run things.

Politically he is exactly in the same boat. If the farmer, enlivened by his success at the polls, attempts to run this Dominion solely and wholly for his own benefits, then the manufacturing interests, who are producing goods to a value exceeding even the combined agricultural products of the country, will rear up and fight him a fight that he will remember; because it is just as utterly im-



The "Bubble" Merchant: "Don't worry—gaze upon the beauty of these!"  
Sick-and-tired Worker: "All wind—give me the real thing, or clear out!"

—Railway Reviews, London.

(Continued on page 5)



## Our OTTAWA LETTER

The Grand Trunk resolutions have occupied the centre of the stage during the past week. On Tuesday morning, the Liberals held a caucus and decided to offer stiff opposition to the ratification of the agreement. In view of the pronounced declaration of all the organized farmers in favor of railway nationalization and its popularity with the followers of Sir Adam Beck and the Labor party, the Liberals do not now dare to evince open hostility to the idea of public ownership of railways. They base their objections on the grounds firstly that it is too late in the session to bring down such a momentous piece of legislation especially as Ministers had announced no more important measures would come up and secondly that the state of the country's finances cannot justify the assumption of such an additional burden as the Grand Trunk transference will entail.

Accordingly the Liberals opposed the government's motion to go into committee and discuss the resolution. Many Ontario members were absent, helping Sir W. Hearst and there was a great scurrying on the part of the whips with the result that only a majority of 58 to 38 was scraped together for the resolution. In committee the discussion did not take the form of a set debate, but rather of a search for information and a cross-examination of Mr. Meighen, who, as usual, has to supplement the somewhat confused brains of the Minister of Railways when a difficult problem has to be tackled in the House.

Apparently the Liberals were reconnoitring the ground and trying to collect material for the orations they would deliver when the bill came up for its second reading. Mr. Robb made a short speech in which he requested the government to postpone further discussion of the matter till next session, in order that more time for investigation and consideration by members and the country might be available.

On Thursday, Sir Thomas White intervened on behalf of the government. He traced the history of railway construction in Canada from 1911 and allocated blame to both parties for the duplication of railway lines. He supported the resolution because it carried out the findings of the Drayton-Acworth report which advocated the absorption of the C. N. R., the G. T. and the G. T. P. and their conversion along with the existing state lines into a great national transcontinental system.

He is, however, not an out-and-out nationalizer like Mr. W. F. Maclean; he would leave the C. P. R. severely alone and deluged that institution with many gracious compliments. He argued that the receivership of the G. T. P. made the

acquisition of the Grand Trunk inevitable and that the arbitration plan was a proper and equitable solution. As for the argument that the liabilities which the country would now assume, might overload the ship, he said that the national debt would not be increased to the full extent of the obligations assumed but only by the marginal liability, that is, the margin of the obligations over the value of the assets acquired.

Last week, when Sir Thomas was engaged in an effort to prove that it was impossible to give the soldiers any additional gratuities or spend much more money on reestablishment, he was in a pessimistic mood and spoke darkly of the country's financial future. But this week, when he is justifying an extensive new venture of his friends, he was in a state of jaunty optimism about the future and had no fears but that the financial burden now to be assumed could be carried; in fact he made very effort to minimize its extent.

His view, summed up, was that having regard to the desperate embarrassment of the two roads and their recurring demands for public aid, it was the wiser policy to take over the roads, merge them with other state railways, cut down expenses by avoiding duplicate services and terminals and manage the whole system efficiently. He was in favor or proceeding at once to carry out the agreement now that Sir A. Smithers had agreed to arbitration.

In conclusion, he emphasized the need for non-political administration and drew a roseate picture of how well the system might pay if run on business lines.

Mr. Fielding, who followed, thought that this talk about keeping the railways out of politics was an idle and foolish dream. Removal out of politics means removal from the control of the people, who have to find the money and use the system, and in his view it was both impossible and inadvisable. He was curious to ascertain why the question should have been suddenly brought up in the closing days of the session, when prorogation had been announced as imminent and half the members were away. What was the reason for the desperate haste and prodigious urgency? He held no greater disaster would occur if the settlement of the question had been put over for a few more months and thought there was an attempt to stampede Parliament.

He was very suspicious of stock jobbing games in London. The 4% guaranteed stock, which the Government proposes to assume as a permanent obligation, has been for some months standing around the comparatively low price of 45 on the London Exchange. It rose the day after the new deal

was announced and is still going up. Mr. Fielding thinks it may go to par, which is the intrinsic value of Canadian guaranteed stock and in this event the holders between them would reap an increment of from 27 to 30 millions. He was strongly of the opinion that certain interested groups of speculators, who have allies on this side of the Atlantic, had received inside information and had brought up the stock for a rise.

There are some grounds for thinking this possible, as it is generally admitted such a manoeuvre was resorted to with great success at the time of the notorious C. N. R. settlement in 1917. There is no simpler way of making money, and it was a gross omission, which lent color to the suspicion of knavery, not to insist upon the cessation of all transfers in G. T. P. stock as soon as the agreement was reached.

Mr. Fielding would have offered the Grand Trunk a premium on this stock, say 55 for what was selling at 45 and saved the profit now being secured. If they had declined to accept that, he would have made them take a value equivalent to the capitalized earnings of the road. He thought the agreement, if left to the unbiased vote of both Houses, would be defeated. However, he declined to make any open attack upon the principle of public ownership, but did his best to damn it with faint praise.

He asserted the experience of the U. S. A. with their railways ought to be a warning and his knowledge of the Intercolonial regime did not make him an enthusiast for state railways, though he admitted he would have opposed handing back that system to a private company. He laid stress upon the fact that the best business minds in the country, meaning the various Boards of Trade and Chambers of Commerce, were against the agreement.

Mr. Meighen replied to Mr. Fielding and scouted the idea of any stockjobbing trickery in connection with the agreement. He admitted that the news of the contract had caused the price to soar, but the

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same thing had happened in 1903 when the G. T. P. transcontinental scheme was broached by the Laurier Government. There had been rumors a month ago about the nature of the settlement, but they were purely conjectural and were known for what they were worth to as many people in Canada as in London. No definite bargain was reached till October 10th, and he repudiated the idea of any conspiracy to make profits for the benefits of friends of the Government. Forty-five was an abnormally low price, and the stock had gone as high as par before.

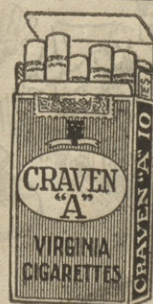
In defence of the urgency of the matter, he argued that the existing system of the National railways was "incomplete, inchoate and cut in the middle", and that while such conditions prevailed national ownership could not have a fair trial.

These and a strong criticism by Mr. Fournier of Bellechasse were the only set speeches, and when they were over the debate resumed the character of a general discussion, in which Mr. Cahill and Mr. Denis acted chiefly as counsel for the prosecution and Mr. Meighen conducted the defence.

Dr. Reid occasionally ventured a word, but his frothy outbursts are discouraged by his colleagues as being calculated to damage his own case.

Mr. Mackenzie was curious to ascertain the exact liabilities assumed and Mr. Cronyn expressed the view that arbitrators should pay no attention to the value which the stock might nominally have on the market, but should look to the physical assets of the road as well, of course, as to its earning possibilities and its liabilities.

Friday was, as usual, a brief day, the House adjourning for the week end at six. Mr. J. H. Sinclair recommended the debate, and said the measure should have been deferred till next session. He had a vague predisposition in favor of private ownership under public control, but offered no suggestions as to how this Utopian project could be worked out. He thought the country was plunging into debt at an unhealthy pace, in fact the national liabilities he calculated were increasing at the



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He also drew attention to the fact that Drayton-Acworth report said that the road would require an expenditure of 51 millions to be put in proper shape, but Dr. Reid countered this with a telegram from Sir Alfred Smithers stating that it was in first class order, which few people believe to be the case.

Mr. H. H. Stevens, of Vancouver, followed, and as was natural for one who aspires to cabinet rank, royally defended the governmental policy. Mr. Turgeon, of Gloucester, adjourned the debate after expressing the opinion that if reciprocity had passed in 1911, the Grand Trunk would have easily weathered its difficulties.

During the rest of the week, apart from the Grand Trunk Discussion, there was little of sufficient interest to record. The Oleomargarine Bill got its third reading as did the Civil Service Amendment Act. The Senate's amendments to the Peace Treaty were discussed, and the House actually gave its endorsement to the Austrian Treaty without any knowledge of its terms, an extraordinary proceeding.

Mr. Mowat elicited statistics showing that there had been a tremendous increase in the last few years in the importation and con-

sumption of cocaine, morphine and crude opium. The importation of cocaine, for instance, had risen from 1361 oz. in 1915 to 29,470 oz. in 1919 and of crude opium in the same period, from 21,818 lb. to 63,898 lb. Mr. Rowell, true to his mission in life to correct such evils, fathered a bill to check this increase, and it made some progress.

Mr. Maclean brought in an amendment to compel canners of shell fish to give less water and more real food in the goods they put up, and Mr. Doherty produced a convention concluded with the United States to save the salmon fisheries of the Fraser river, for whose disastrous plight that very expensive national institution, lately known as the Canadian Northern Railway, was largely responsible.

Great interest is being evinced in the lobbies over the result of the Ontario elections. It is felt that it may furnish some guide as to the future possibilities of the very complicated situation in Dominion politics, and especially to the by-elections due to take place a week later. Both the old parties will shed few tears if the polls reveal a lack of success on the part of the U.F.O. candidates; if on the other hand the U.F.O. develops real strength, it will be plain that the actuality long dreaded, the appearance of an energetic third party in politics with a definite radical programme, is an accomplished fact.

If Mr. Dewar fails badly, it means that west of the Ottawa river, the Liberal party must give place as the exponent of progressive ideas to more vital and more sincere forces.

News is hard to obtain about the progress of the various federal by-elections. The "Ottawa Citizen" charges that the Government has been at the time honored game of offering bribes in the shape of expensive local public works to the two constituencies in which Ministers are seeking re-election.

In Glengarry, Mr. Wilfrid Kennedy, the U.F.O. nominee, who has had Mr. T. A. Crerar speaking for him, is putting up an active fight and his opponent, Brig. General Hervey is laying more stress upon his independence than his Unionism.

In Mr. Carvell's old seat, Mr. Caldwell, the farmer's nominee will have as opponents a Unionist, Col. W. Melville who, it is understood, is the same gentleman who figured so prominently in the inquiry over the recording of the soldiers' votes at St. John, P.Q., in 1917; and an independent feminine aspirant, Miss Adney.

Mr. Mackenzie King is apparently to get an acclamation in Prince Edward Island and it is to be hoped that he has not promised the Island too many blessings to secure it.

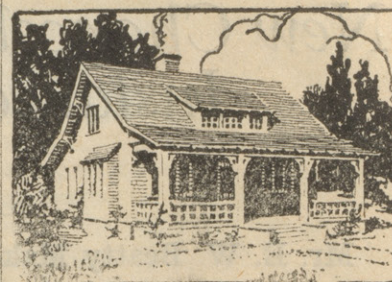
In Quebec East, Mr. Armand Lavergne threatened trouble, and Mr. Ernest Lapointe resigned his safe seat in Kamouraska to fight him, but Mr. Lavergne has now abandon-

ed the idea. The migration of Mr. Lapointe to Sir Wilfrid's old seat is full of significance and is all to the good, if it means that Mr. Lapointe is to lead Quebec Liberalism at Ottawa.

In Assinaboia, Mr. Motherwell, as Liberal candidate is conducting a vigorous campaign against Mr. Gould, the Graingrowers' candidate, and the powerful organization which has been created to help him. Mr. Motherwell, who is receiving no help from the Saskatchewan Liberal Government and the Regina Leader, though the Moose Jaw "Times" is backing him, is mainly responsible for his own nomination and has apparently received little encouragement from Ottawa in his course. Its motive is doubtless sincere, but its result may be damaging to his party.

Nothing will please that astute gentleman, Mr. J. A. Calder, so much as a feud between the Liberals and the Graingrowers in the West. Mr. King evidently wished to avert such a development, but now Mr. A. R. McMaster, one of the rising hopes of the stern unbending "Grits" has fared forth on a pilgrimage to the West to assist Mr. Motherwell in carrying the Liberal banners to victory. Mr. McMaster would have been well advised to have stayed at home and is doing, if he only knew it, small service to the party he represents. He is a man of considerable ability and has many sound progressive ideas, though he has not quite lived up to the early expectations formed of him. He is one of those people who recall to mind the "They are all out o' step but oor Jock" story, as he declines to recognize the slightest merit in the ideas of any person who declines to accept the programme of official Liberalism as the only short cut to a political millenium. Probably he fancies that his championship of free trade at the Liberal convention has made him a popular hero in the West, but his trip may prove a source of education to other people than the electors of Assinaboia.

J. A. S.



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"Robson, do you know why you are like a donkey?" the jester queried.

"Like a donkey?" echoed Robson, opening his eyes wide. "I don't."

"Because your better half is stubbornness itself."

The jest pleased Robson immensely, for he at once saw the opportunity for a glorious dig at his wife. So when he got home he said:

"Dear, do you why I am like a donkey?"

He waited a moment, expecting his wife to give it up. But she didn't. She looked at him somewhat pityingly as she answered:

"I suppose it's because you were born so."—London Tit-Bits.

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# New Chancellor Installed on His 41st Birthday

**Mr. E. W. Beatty Makes Impressive Speech At  
Queen's University.**

The closer drawing together of academic and industrial institutions was foreshadowed in the ceremony which took place at Queen's University on Oct. 16, when E. W. Beatty, K.C., president of the Canadian Pacific Railway, was formally installed as Chancellor of the great historic university. A predominant note in his address was that which insisted upon the utilitarian aspect of the higher education in relation to the economic needs of the nation. In this connection the new chancellor sounded a warning note against the danger of equal remuneration to the man who makes no effort as compared with the one who seeks to equip himself by intellectual training. The fact that the new chancellor was installed upon his 41st birthday was

also a reminder that the day was gone when it was considered indispensable that the holder of such an office should be of venerable years.

Following the installation of the principal-elect, Dr. Bruce Taylor, and of the chancellor-elect, E. W. Beatty, the latter delivered his address. His reception was a particularly noisy though cordial one from the students, in their usual style.

## Mr. Beatty's Address.

Mr. Beatty said:

"I cannot adequately express the deep sense of honor I feel at being chosen Chancellor of Queen's University, and it may not be amiss for me to tell you some of the reasons why I regard an association with Queen's as such a distinctive honor

at this time. For many years I have seen and marvelled at the spirit of loyalty which has prevailed and still prevails among the graduates and undergraduates in this university. I have seen the graduates leave the institution with an affection for their Alma Mater unsurpassed and rarely equalled in any Canadian educational institution, and I have observed the thoroughness which has permeated all branches of the college and has made a Queen's man a much sought-after adjunct in the professional and industrial life of this country.

"There is, too, an additional pleasure in being associated with the university at this period in our country's affairs, when the need and value of university training is being appreciated as never before.

"The time was when the first, and, in fact, the only, function of our college was the training of men for the learned professions. We now know that the influence of the college man in commerce and national life transcends even his value in those professions to which formerly his education was primarily and immediately directed.

## Canada's Future.

"Serious economic and social problems confront us to day in trade, industry and finance and the sciences, and trained minds are needed to deal with them. Economic stability, commercial development and thrift are needed if Canada is to reap its full share of the world's prosperity, and in its accomplishments, waste and extravagance, state socialism and all that it implies can play no good or great part.

"In no country that I now of is there the same equality of opportunity as in Canada. Blest as we are with natural resources of almost unlimited wealth, the future of Canada is one that we may look forward to with confidence, and in its development later, as well as now, the trained mind of the college man is a national asset. He has the basis of a liberal education, a firm grasp of fundamentals, and a mind taught to think straight. He is impressed with the necessity of complete and accurate information before coming to a conclusion. He must weigh heavily in the councils of the nation, and he should and will play his full part in the situation of the difficult problems which confront us. Now, more than ever, are universities growing in response to the needs of the people, and so it is that the universities are being recognized in their full importance as the producers of trained men.

"It is a fact, too, that the universities, while the seats of learning and of necessity the intellectual centres of the nation, are rapidly taking the functions of public service institutions, in that they help to supply to the young men and women of this country, in addition to the ideals and standards which make for the best Canadianism, the practical assistance which has for its ultimate ef-

fect the support and success of Canadian enterprise.

## Salaries Too Low.

"It would be only appropriate for me to add that while the work of Canadian universities and the future value of Canadian college men to Canada will be of increasing importance, there is one disturbing and unfair situation which pertains in some measure in all educational faculties, from the highest to the lowest, namely, the totally inadequate salaries paid to those upon whom devolves the important work of educating, and there are very few who are not, is worth educating well, which means that those upon whom the responsibility of his education is placed should be worthy of that responsibility and be adequately compensated for the work they are called upon to perform.

"It is idle to say that we have a full appreciation of education unless our appreciation of our educators is shown in a sufficiently substantial way—a way that will permit of his enjoying, to a reasonable extent, the good things of life; make his profession attractive and thus secure a never ending supply of men properly trained and fired with enthusiasm in their profession.

The result in the character of the finished product in graduates of schools and universities will be incalculable.

"There is another phase of all university men's influences which I have observed in the more practical things I have had to do with in many years past, and that is his influence toward commercial and economic efficiency. Here, again, it is the trained mind of a man who is well grounded and taught to think that will meet and overcome the problems of inefficiency, which result in probably the greatest economic waste in this country. You will appreciate the vital importance of this when you realize the waste which must inevitably follow the payment of high rewards to those who do not give adequate return in service.

"A man's success—to himself, his business or profession and his country—is more and more governed by his personal efficiency, and failure and unrest must inevitably follow the attempt to standardize the work of individuals, permitting the competent and incompetent to enjoy the same results of their labor; not by this means making the incompetent more competent, but destroying the initiative of the competent, who see the results of their own effort inadequately recognized. We now know that in commerce and in industry a man's education and the use he makes of it spells for him the difference between success and failure, and this at no loss of a proper share of intellectual pleasure, the appreciation of which he learns when securing the foundation of that education.

## College Man in Commerce.

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that with the continuing enlargement of education facilities thrown open to a greater number of men, with a zealous regard for the standing and needs of the faculties and the wider knowledge which all undergraduates should prepare to receive, the leaders in our public life and professions and in commerce will hereafter be obtained in a large proportion from college men.

"I cannot refrain from expressing my own deep personal gratification at the selection of Dr. Bruce Taylor as principal of the college. I heartily congratulate the board of trustees upon their choice. I know of no man who by ability, enthusiasm and appreciation of the practical needs of the times is better fitted to perform the important functions of his office than its present incumbent. I assure him of the best assistance of myself and the board of trustees, and I bespeak for him the loyalty and support of all members of the faculty and the undergraduates of the university. He has a great work to perform and the difficulty of meeting the demands of the changing times are not few. Dr. Taylor has earned and will earn your wholehearted assistance in his work, and I feel sure ably and affectively carry on the great work of his eminent predecessors in office."

#### Principal Taylor's Address.

Principal Bruce Taylor, who was the next speaker, said:

"Today Queen's is beginning a new chapter. Dr. Douglas is being followed as chancellor by Mr. Beatty, who still in his youth—in fact is just today celebrating his 41st birthday—has reached by the pathway of academic and professional career, that greatest executive position that industry has anywhere to offer. I count myself fortunate that I am to have his counsel in carrying on this work."

Principal Taylor's address took a wide survey, first of the history of the university, and then on the effect of recent events and movements upon present conditions. He compared the conditions of university life as between Oxford and Cambridge, and Scottish and Canadian universities. Men went to the former for social enjoyment and ath-

letics, while they went to the latter for work and study. Canadian universities had not yet succeeded in creating any very distinct type of character, there was nothing in the university life of Canada to compare with the influence that one Oxford college had exercised upon Imperial affairs. Oxford thinks the professor is a theorist and a dreamer and is not to be reckoned in the same breath with the business man. The real contribution that Queen's in the past has made to the national life has been her idealism. Queen's has gained her distinctiveness by sending her students forth believing that the highest satisfaction is to be found in following the things of the mind, and content in the great venture of life to stake all upon that.

#### Hon. G. D. Robertson, LL.D.

Senator Gideon Robertson, who was the recipient of an honorary LL.D., frankly confessed he had never before the previous night, passed the portals of such an institution. As an ordinary citizen he thought the reason for the unpopularity of the university among the poor was that they saw an opportunity of ready money in industry, while the university course meant spending time before money was gained. He referred to the newly installed chancellor and principal as two men democratic in thought, word and action, Beatty, because he had made a plea for better payment of the teacher, and Taylor, because he had spoken of the sailors' hardships. He said the Department of Labor was ready to use university men because through work done by one professor drawn from this university, a scheme had been worked out which resulted in placing more than two hundred thousand men and women in employment.

#### MR. BEN TILLET TO SPEAK

Mr. Ben Tillett, M.P., one of the leading figures in the labor movement of Great Britain, and for many years associated with the Dockworkers' Union, will speak on British labor affairs at l'Assistance Public Hall, corner Lagachetiere and Berri streets, at eight o'clock on Sunday night, October 26th. The meeting will be under the auspices of the Trades and Labor Council and will be public.

#### POLITICAL PHENOMENA

(Continued from page 1)

possible for a farmer political party to dominate and run this country, from the viewpoint and solely in the interest of the farmers, as it would be for a capitalist party to dominate and conduct the political affairs of the country solely in the interest of the possessing class. Events will prove that labor as a political party will eventually develop, which will prove to be a healthy one for

the final and good interest of the Dominion.

You cannot have a prosperous country unless legislation is effected which will be fair and just to all classes, and all sections of the country. Festooning the parliament buildings with garlands of whiskers won't make the tall buildings grow in the cities. It might have a lot to do with the price of turnips, but it would be a terrible thing if it got tangled up in the cogwheels of our national industries.

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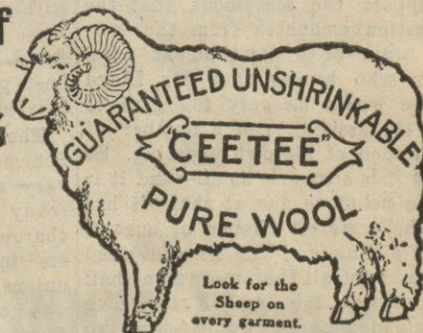
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# OUR LONDON LETTER

London, September 26th.

British Labor, with two notable exceptions, to which I shall presently refer, is for the moment resting from exciting happenings and giving its mind solidly and seriously to industrial organization and political preparation. In these directions events are taking place of the highest importance and the most far-reaching consequences.

The recent full flavored controversy between what we call over here the "direct action" and the "constitutional" sections has resulted in decisions to give political methods a further trial. Accordingly the Prime Minister is to be approached personally upon the two outstanding questions which Labor is thinking most about just now—nationalization of mines and minerals and the withdrawal of our troops from Russia with consequent abolition of conscription. Whatever comes out of these interviews—and few of us imagine that the result will be tangible—is to be submitted to specially convened congresses in order that future action may be determined.

One of the important factors in this sparing of the industrial weapon yet a little longer in the belief strongly held by many Labor leaders that a general election cannot long be delayed and that the chances of the party finding wide success at the polls are particularly rosy. Coalitionists are making so much noise over the fact that the Labor man at Pontefract the other day failed to secure return, when the one important circumstance was that he reduced the majority of 2,000 votes, as to prove that they are anxious to catch at any straw of hope.

There have been stories judiciously circulating during the last few days that feelers have been put out towards a possible Lloyd George-Labor Coalition. Government organs have been cultivating the notion that Labor would be only too pleased to entertain such proposals. As a matter of fact I have personal knowledge to support the statement that the suggestion emanates from the worried brain of a Government wire-puller who knows that Mr. Lloyd George would be only too glad to have the assistance of a number of Labor men of his own choosing. So far as it is a scheme at all—and it is only a nebulous one at that—it has not the remotest chance of success. Labor's rank and file have decided once and for all that their men shall not postpone the day of their own party's dominance by patching up the threadbare garments of capitalism.

On the other hand Labor is putting forward healthy efforts towards capturing the municipal elec-

tions in November, as a useful stepping stone towards the sterner struggle, whenever it shall come. It will do well in these earlier contests. The public conscience is by this time thoroughly aroused over the shameless profiteering in food that is going on and labor men and women will push for all it is worth the policy of the municipal market which has already borne good fruit in bringing down the prices demanded by rapacious shopkeepers. A huge demonstration in Hyde Park, London showed the mind of the people to be of rock-like determination on this phase of the situation. Labor speakers, tried, trusted and of good repute, put the case for the cheap market as against the dear shop and for the development of the co-operative system to the great content of half a million of people. All this will tell at the polls.

Further, there is taking definite shape an ambitious scheme for linking together the Labor, Trades Union and Co-operative forces in a more cohesive whole than ever before. A practical example is to be set up in the comparatively near future in the shape of an imposing "Citadel of the Commonwealth" to be a "Memorial of freedom and peace," the capital outlay of which will probably be over a million pounds sterling. It is proposed to erect in London, a great building which is to include stores, hotel, clubs, meetings-halls, banks, restaurants and a college under one roof. This is part of the widespread operations of the Joint Advisory Council of Trade Unionists and Co-operators, working in conjunction with the Labor Party executive department.

It has long been a matter of considerable inconvenience that in a city of the size of London the various offices and agencies of the movements activities have been widely separated and in many cases most inadequately housed. Delegates and officials who come from provincial centres on trades union business experience considerable difficulty in getting through their work within reasonable time owing to these circumstances. A central home for Labor in London will be the best piece of business organization carried out for many a day.

The banking section of the Scheme is one to which I attach very real importance. We have already a Co-operative Bank taking charge of £3,000,000 of the workers' money. Why should not all the unions be able to bank with their own concern and thus take away from the Capitalist financiers a share not to be despised of the wealth with which they now fight the working classes? This central Labor bank could be able to come to the assistance of unions in temporary

This is the leading London Letter published in Canada, and contains information and opinion of special interest to hand and brain workers which is not to be found elsewhere. It is written by Mr. Ethelbert Pogson, labor correspondent for the London Evening Standard, Daily Sketch, Daily Despatch and Manchester Evening Chronicle. Mr. Pogson is known personally to all the chief labor men in Great Britain. The letter is written exclusively for the Canadian Railroader. Other newspapers may use extracts from it, provided the Railroader is credited.

difficulties owing to strikes in an invaluable way.

It is further suggested that the department store portion of the scheme will be able to materially assist with food and clothing supplies when a big strike or lock-out makes this desirable. The possibilities of the scheme are, indeed, endless.

Perhaps the most marked feature on the industrial side of the movement just now however, is the ever increasing tendency towards a unity of unions. Whereas we have suffered in this country from the competitions and jealousies of several unions for one class of worker that is gradually finding its proper level. There has just been completed a combination of postal workers—letter carriers, sorters, telegraph and telephone clerks, and all engaged in the service—in one body to be called the Union of Postal Workers. The membership will be about 110,000, instead of a number of small and detached unions, as before, having too few members to be able to assert themselves effectively. This new aggregation could with perfect ease bring the whole postal service of Great Britain to a standstill in a day—and the places of the majority of these workers could not be filled.

The first exception to the evenness of tenor to which I referred at the beginning of this letter is in the case of the iron foundries. Fifty thousand men in the Friendly Society of the Iron foundries, the Core-makers and the Metal Dressers have just downed tools to enforce a demand for a 15/- per week advance with 7/6 for apprentices. They are up against a wealthy organization in the Engineering Employers' organization but the effect of a protracted strike on the engineering trade generally would be so heavy that it is not expected that the struggle will be of long duration.

The second industrial trouble is far more serious and may have portentous results. The railwaymen in the National Union of Railwaymen have struck because of new Government wages proposals which the men argue will leave some of them from 14/- to 10/- per week less than they now receive. There have been numerous conferences in the course of which the Prime Minister asked the railwaymen to postpone

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George V.

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their strike on the ground that the new scales cannot take effect until the end of the year and, providing the cost of living has not gone down, not even then. But the men looked upon the suggestion as an attempt to shuffle out of the demand to pay a fair wage and all grades are in a state of intense indignation.

The Government is attempting to meet the emergency by a system of road transport, manned by volunteers, but at the moment of writing is has not been worked up to a particularly effective reply to the blow the railwaymen have struck. There is likelihood of the tramway, omnibus and taxi-cab workers coming out at any moment.

Not a little indignation is being expressed among trades unionists at what is considered a sinister conspiracy against them fomented by Government departments. Efforts are being made to enrol a large number of special constabulary and the Postmaster General has even urged postal servants, whom, as I have shown, are keen trade unionists, to offer their services for civil duties in the event of public emergency arising. Their answer is that the "emergency" contemplated is evidently action by their own class and their members are cautioned against entering into any agreement which may involve their being urged used for strike-breaking purposes.

Ethelbert Pogson.



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## Press and Hangings

THREE men were hanged at Prince Albert, Sask., on the 17th October, and according to a despatch from that city, the sheriff refused to allow the press representatives to be present. The refusal is a precedent that one may expect to see followed elsewhere, and it must be read in the light of the miserable performance that was witnessed in Bordeaux jail on the 12th September and faithfully reported in the newspapers. The fact that it was properly described according to facts did not please the authorities, and the result was a letter from the jail doctor to the attorney general of Quebec which satisfied this latter officer of the Crown that the law had been most fairly and humanely administered. We are not aware that the press have any legal right to be present at executions; but the custom has grown up probably because it was felt that it was desirable to have impartial witnesses to see that the sentence was properly carried out. Are the public content to let it rest so, that the officials shall be the only ones to carry out the law and then tell the world that it has been properly done, even if it is bungled? Newspapers do not send their men to executions in order to get a story, but simply to report the last phase, as other phases, of justice. They have been the medium between officialdom and the taxpayer. If, as may be urged, the reporters have abused their privileges and duty by exaggerating the facts, why should the sheriff not invite each paper next time to send the best man on their staff — in fact, why not the editor? This is a subject that should be taken up equally by the press organizations and by humane societies. The in camera principle has always been discredited in justice, and this latest effort to introduce it into the Dominion should meet with active opposition from all who are seeking for the establishment of a pure judicial system.

## Defects in the "Raids"

FROM the way the stories go around you would think that the raids on disorderly houses in Montreal were the culmination of some smart detective work, carried out at great personal risk, with spectacular accompaniments. Really, the softest job a policeman ever gets is a raid of the kind. There is no secret about a disorderly house. Everybody within a block knows about it. If you are a stranger in the locality, all you have to do is to stand on the edge of the sidewalk in "The District" and look as if you had nothing to do, when information will be forthcoming. As for the raid itself, there is nothing but a bunch of seared women and some badly-scared men to face. It is like picking cherries of a tree — only some of the cherries may not be very tempting.

There are nearly always several defects in these raids. One is that the bullies who are the leeches of the business are seldom caught. Another is that the respectable landlords who rent houses to bad lots put a dollar in the plate as usual next Sunday, instead of being compelled to attend a service where the parson is flanked by a warder with a gun. Another is that the women will be kept under lock and key till they are heavily fined or sent to jail, while the men get easy bail at once and are rarely seen or heard of again. At present an effort is being made to get information which will convict the landlords of disorderly houses, but the legal defences of these persons resemble the Hindenburg line.

## FARMERS' PARTY LEADS ONTARIO LEGISLATURE AND LABOR GETS ELEVEN SEATS.

The next Government of the province of Ontario may be a coalition composed of Liberals, United Farmers and Labor. At the time of writing with the count in ten seats still incomplete, the only thing practically assured, is that the Sir William Hearst Conservative Government has been swamped by the election of a majority of various parties, who may or may not combine to put the Conservatives in opposition in the next House. Forty candidates of the United Farmers of Ontario have been elected, twenty-nine Liberals and twenty-eight Conservatives. There are also among the successful candidates eleven Labor candidates, one soldier and one independent Liberal. No party in itself has a working majority.

Sir William Hearst, Premier, in conceding his personal defeat at Sault Ste. Marie, by the Labor candidate, admitted that the United Farmers would have considerable to do with the formation of the next legislature. Their prospective attitude, he said, was difficult to determine.

Most of the Conservative ministers went down to defeat with Sir William Hearst, Hon. W. D. McPherson, Provincial Secretary in Northwest Toronto; Hon. T. W. McGarry, Provincial Treasurer, in South Renfrew; Hon. I. B. Lucas, in Centre Grey; Hon. F. G. McDiarmid in Elgin West, were all beaten by their opponents in their respective ridings. Hon. Dr. Cody, Minister of Education, who was returned by acclamation in Northeast Toronto, and Hon. A. E. Ross, who was likewise returned without a contest, in Kingston, with Hon. George Henry, and Hon. Howard Ferguson, are the sole survivors of cabinet rank, as the result of the elections.

## NEXT ONTARIO LEGISLATURE

Farmers . . . . .	41
Liberals . . . . .	29
Conservatives . . . . .	28
Labor . . . . .	11
Independent . . . . .	2

Total . . . . . 111

## LAST LEGISLATURE

Conservatives . . . . .	77
Liberals . . . . .	30
Farmers . . . . .	2
Vacant seats . . . . .	2

Total . . . . . 111

In London there was one of the many surprises in the defeat of Sir Adam Beck, by Dr. Stevenson, who ran as a Labor candidate.

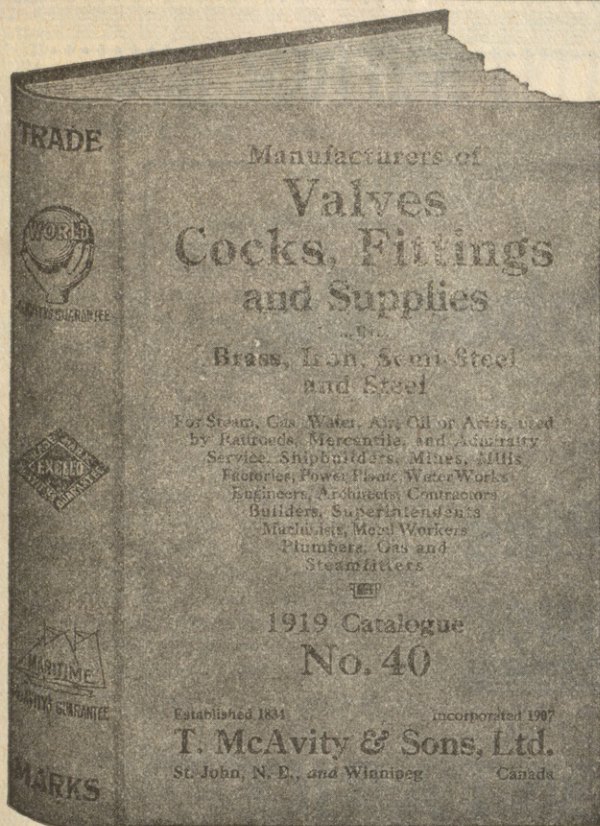
Whatever may be the outcome, it is almost certain that Ontario's next Government will be a fusion of some sort. Either one of Conservatives, farmers and labor or Liberals, farmers and labor. In view of their working alliance during the election, it is taken for granted that they will stand together in the House.

The tremendous sweep of the farmers and labor men astonished everyone.

## Labor Members Elected.

Brant, South—M. M. McBride.  
Fort William—H. Mills.  
Hamilton, East—G. C. Halcrow.  
Hamilton, West—Walter Rollo.  
Kenora—P. Heenan.  
London—Dr. Stevenson.  
Niagara Falls—S. Swayze.  
Peterboro, West—Thos. Tooms.  
St. Catharines—F. Greenlaw.  
Sault Ste. Marie—J. R. Cunningham.  
Waterloo, South—K. Homuth.





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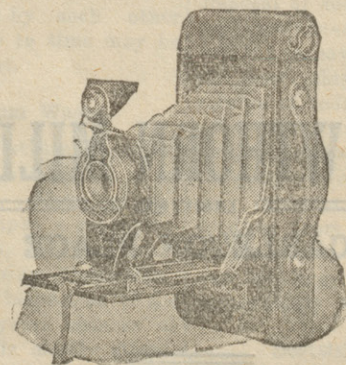
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## OUR SCOTTISH LETTER

Glasgow.

A settlement has now been reached in the shale oil dispute, which threatened to throw 10,000 workers idle. Immediate steps have been taken for a resumption of work. Some little time must elapse, however, before the industry can be conducted on normal lines. Briefly stated the terms of settlement are:—Present conditions and wages to continue until the end of the year, in order to ascertain whether economies are found to materialize to an extent enabling the industry to be carried on a seven hours' basis. Should the enquiry warrant it, then the hours shall be — underground workers, 7 hours per day; surface workers, 4½ per week; oil workers, 48 per week; necessary adjustment of piece-workers' rates.

### Fishing Trade Dispute.

A series of conferences between Aberdeen, trawl owners and their crews ended with a settlement of the dispute as remote as ever. The position remains, therefore, in a condition of deadlock. The lock-out is having its effect on the curing branch of the industry, and one of the most important fish-curing concerns in the Aberdeen area has discharged thirty women workers. Other curing firms are giving their employees the option of keeping on at half-pay.

### Holiday Payment.

The claim for out-of-work donation made on behalf of several hundred iron and steel workers in the Wishaw district, in respect of idleness due to a fortnight's extended holiday during repairs at the works, had to go to the umpire for decision, on the recommendation of the Court of Referees. A letter bearing on the subject was received by the local secretary of the Amalgamated Society of Iron and Steel Workers from Sir Robert Horne, the Minister of Labor, to whom a resolution protesting against the non-payment of the donation had been sent. Sir Robert Horne said that he found, on enquiry, that the instructions issued by the Ministry of Labor in regard to the circumstances in which donation may be paid to workpeople temporarily suspended owing to an extended holiday, had been incorrectly interpreted. He had, however, caused the position to be further explained to the local officers of the Ministry, and, in accordance with the request of the Court of Referees, had referred a test case to the Umpire appointed finally to adjudicate on doubtful claims. The men have now been notified that their claim has been upheld.

### Mine Officials' Strike.

The Scottish coal trade is menaced by a new and more serious compli-

cation, and representatives of owners are apprehensive of an early disorganization of the machinery requisite for a steady output of coal, but for the moment the great railway strike has put another aspect of the case to the front. At the same time a tense situation has been created by the alleged victimisation of a prominent Scottish under-manager, referred to in my letter of last week, and the possibility of direct action amongst a new group, namely, managers, under-managers, firemen, and clerks throughout Scotland, is not remote. A demand has been made to the Coal Controller for an enquiry into the dismissal of the manager of View Park, Colliery, Uddingston. As the reply is considered unsatisfactory drastic action is threatened. Meetings of the under-managers, firemen, and clerks are being held, and unless the Coal Controller intervenes in some form or another a strike seems inevitable. Scotland has fully 400 collieries, and practically all the managers and under-managers are associated with a union.

### Cinemas or Houses.

Scottish Local Authorities are seeking light and leading in the matter of sanctioning the erection of non-essential buildings such as cinemas, when the housing problem is still so acute. It is a common complaint that building labor and material—both of which are exceedingly scarce at present—are being used to too great an extent in erecting places of entertainment. In several cases it has been pointed out to Local Authorities that householders have been disturbed to make room for new cinemas, and the opinion has been expressed in reply that if the plans submitted are in order their approval cannot be refused. There is always the remedy, however. The popular feeling is that all unnecessary buildings should at least be restricted, if not altogether suspended, until the housing problem has been tackled in earnest. It is understood, on reliable authority, that the Scottish Board of Health is contemplating action along these lines. Numerous complaints have been made to the Board by Local Authorities, and it is highly probable that

legislation will be introduced to deal with the matter at an early date.

### Education of the Workers.

The Workers' Educational Association is making rapid progress. The Association co-ordinates existing agencies and devises fresh means by which working people of all degrees may be raised educationally, step by step, until they are able to take advantage of the facilities which are, and may be, provided by the Universities. It is a missionary organization working in co-operation with Education Authorities and working-class organizations. It is definitely unsectarian, non-political and democratic. It is a Federation consisting at present of about 2526 organizations, including about 1071 trade unions, trade councils and branches, 384 co-operative societies and committees, 199 adult schools, brotherhoods, etc., 8 University bodies, 5 Local Education Authorities, 100 working men's clubs, institutes, etc., 176 Teachers' Association, 73 educational and literary societies and 328 various societies, mainly of work people. It seeks to fulfill its objects in the following principal ways:—By arousing the interest of the workers in Higher Education, and by directing their attention to the facilities already existing; by enquiring into the needs and desires of the worker in regard to education generally, and by representing them to the Board of Education, providing, either in conjunction with the aforementioned bodies or otherwise, facilities for the study of subjects of interest to the workers for which necessity arises; by the publication of literature, and by such other means as from time to time may be considered expedient.

### £90,000 From Waste.

Through the wise utilization of its garbage and refuse Glasgow is a great food producer. This fact was forcibly impressed upon a representative company who, on the invitation of the Cleansing Committee, went on a round of inspection of the Ryding and Robroyston estates of the Corporation-lands mostly situated in cold and bleak country within eleven miles of the city, but lands which by the application of city refuse have been made to yield rich harvests. In addition to the usual work of cleansing the city, the material collected was so carefully selected and treated that a considerable revenue was derived. Not only was

Our Scottish Letter is the best of its kind published in Canada. It contains important news and views found in no other paper. Its outstanding character is such that a number of other newspapers use more or less lengthy extracts from it after it has appeared in the Canadian Railroader. There is no objection to this, but extracts should in fairness be credited to this paper. The Scottish Letter is written exclusively for the Railroader, by Mr. James Gibson, President of the Scottish Council of the National Union of Journalists, who is particularly well informed on Scottish labor matters and Scottish affairs generally.

the refuse converted into a fertilizing agent, for which an outlet among farmers was found within an area extending 120 miles from the city, but the refuse by-products also brought in a considerable sum. Exclusive of manure sold, the average revenue derived from by-products during the first five years amounted to over £7,000 per annum, and for the last year the figures reached the record total of £14,000, or a total income of close on £90,000 since the methods of salving all saleable material from the refuse were introduced about twenty years ago. In a city like Glasgow there was always a considerable quantity of refuse which could neither be cremated nor sold, and in order to facilitate the disposal of such material the Cleansing Committee in past years wisely decided to have land at its command to meet this difficulty and the estates of today showed to what extent the ground occupied by the Corporation was being utilised for the purposes of the department. It may be mentioned that £14,000 of produce from the farms had been utilised, and the Corporation was now tackling the rearing of pigs and succeeding well so far.

### Scottish Unemployed.

There was a decrease in the number of unemployed in Scotland last week, when 55,321 were out of work, which number is 321 less than that for the previous week. This represents 113 in every ten thousand of the population as compared with 114, 114, 117 and 133 in the four previous weeks. 41,870 received donation and 2,618 unemployment insurance benefit, leaving 10,833 not in receipt of monetary assistance. 3,246 vacancies were notified by employers, or 389 fewer than the week before. Vacancies still unfilled for various reasons and carried forward totaled 11,350. 2,689 workpeople (or 4.8 per cent. of the number of unemployed) were placed in situations, a decrease of 213 from the preceding week. Re-absorption or resettlement in industry of 88.5 per cent. of the persons who have passed

(Continued on page 15)



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# To Speak for Canadian Labor at Conference

## Personnel Of Delegation To Washington Announced.

The names of the members of the Canadian delegation to the International Labor Conference, to be convened at Washington on Oct. 29th have been made public by the Minister of Labor. The conference is the outcome of the Labor convention incorporated in the treaty of peace.

The convention provides that the original members of the League of Nations shall be the original members of a permanent organization for the promotion of the international regulation of labor conditions. The permanent organization consists of:

- (1) A general conference of representatives of the members.
- (2) An international Labor office controlled by a governing body, due provision being made for the creation of the governing body.

The League of Nations will as is generally understood, comprise practically all the countries of the world. Meetings of the general conference will take place from time to time and at least once a year.

The agenda of the conference contains five items:

1. Application of principle of the eight-hour day, or of the forty-eight hour week.
2. Question of providing against unemployment.
3. Women's employment.
4. Employment of children.
5. Questions relating to prohibition of night work for women employed in industry and to prohibition of the use of phosphorus in the manufacture of matches.

All preliminaries with respect to matters relating to the conference have been in the hands of an international organization committee, consisting of seven members appointed by the United States of America, Great Britain, France, Italy, Japan, Belgium and Switzerland. The chairman of the committee is Mr. Arthur Fontaine, representative of France on the international organization committee.

The British member of the committee is Sir Malcolm Delevingne, K.C.B., assistant under-Secretary of State for the Home Office for the United Kingdom. The American member of the international committee is Dr. J. T. Shotwell, professor at Columbia University. Mr. H. B. Butler, C.B., assistant secretary to the Minister of Labor of the United Kingdom, is the secretary of the committee. Mr. Butler visited Ottawa when on his way from England to Washington.

After the conference agenda had been arranged, the international organizing committee submitted to the government of each country being a member of the conference a highly-detailed questionnaire with respect to laws, regulations and practices as to every conceivable phase of the matters figuring in the agenda. The copy of the questionnaire reaching the Dominion Government was dealt with by the Department of Labor, and the fullest information available was prepared and forwarded to the international organizing committee.

### Delegates and Advisers.

The regulations of the labor convention provide that the general conference shall be composed of four representatives of each of the members, of whom two shall be Government delegates and the two others shall be delegates representing respectively the employers and the work people of each of the members. Each delegate may be accompanied by advisers, who shall not exceed two in number for each item on the agenda of the meeting. When questions specially affecting women are to be considered by the conference, one at least of the advisers should be a woman. The members undertake to nominate non-government delegates and advisers chosen in agreement with the industrial organizations which are most representative of employers or work people, as the case may be in their respective countries.

With a view to meeting the requirements of the foregoing regulations with respect to non-Government delegates, the Government requested recommendations on the subject from the Canadian Manufacturers' Association and the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada, as being the two bodies most representative of employers and work people respectively. The Government suggested five as the number of advisers which might be named for each delegate and communications were duly received from the organizations in question recommending persons for appointment as delegates or advisers as requested.

The matters mentioned in the agenda of the conference being such as fall wholly or in part within the sphere of provincial jurisdiction, it seemed desirable that the governments of the several provinces should have, if possible, an opportunity of sending representatives to the conference and the system under which each delegate may be accompanied by a stated number of "advisers" appearing to offer an opportunity of such representation on the part of the provinces, the several provincial governments were invited each to name a person who might be appointed as an adviser to one of the Dominion Government delegates, and the provincial governments have, as a rule, cordially responded with nominations of persons to be appointed.

### Represent Governments.

Following is the list of names of persons appointed on behalf of the Dominion Government or on behalf of the organization "most representative of employers or work people, as delegates or advisers, respectively," namely:

Dominion Government delegates: Hon. Gideon D. Robertson and Hon. Newton W. Rowell.

Advisers to Dominion Government delegates — F. A. Acland, deputy Minister of Labor; Loring C. Christie, legal adviser to the Department of External Affairs; Gerald H. Brown, secretary to reconstruction

committee of the Government of Canada.

Named by provincial Governments — Nova Scotia: Daniel A. Cameron, M.L.A., of Sydney; Prince Edward Island: Hon. W. L. Mackenzie King; Quebec: Louis Guyon, deputy Minister of Labor for Quebec; Ontario: Dr. Walter A. Riddell, of Toronto, deputy Minister of Labor for Ontario; Manitoba: Hon. Thomas H. Johnson, Attorney-General; Saskatchewan: T. M. Molloy, of Regina, secretary of the Bureau of Labor; Alberta: Hon. C. R. Mitchell, Provincial Treasurer, Alberta; British Columbia: J. D. McNiven, Victoria, deputy Minister of Labor for British Columbia.

### Non-Government Delegates.

Recommendation as for employers received from Canadian Manufacturers' Association — S. R. Parsons, Toronto.

Persons recommended as advisers to same — J. E. Walsh, Toronto; J. T. Stirritt, general secretary, Canadian Manufacturers' Association, Toronto; E. Blake Robertson, Ottawa, representative, Canadian Manufacturers' Association; W. J. Bulman, Winnipeg; F. P. Jones, Montreal.

Following also are the names of persons recommended by the Canadian Manufacturers' Association for appointment as substitute advisers, to act in case of vacancies arising in the foregoing list; J. B. Hugg, Winnipeg; Samuel Harris, Toronto.

Recommendation as for work people received from the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada — P. M. Draper, secretary-treasurer, Trades and Labor Congress of Canada.

Persons recommended as advisers to same — Tom Moore, president Trades and Labor Congress; Arthur Martel, vice-president Trades and Labor Congress of Canada; Robert Baxter, vice-president Trades and Labor Congress, Glace Bay, N. S.; David Rees, vice-president Trades and Labor Congress of Canada, Vancouver, B.C.; Mrs. Kathleen Derry, member Boot and Shoe Workers' Union, Toronto.

Following also are the names of persons recommended by the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada for appointment as substitute advisers, to act in case of vacancies arising in the foregoing list — Alexander McAndrew, vice-president Trades and Labor Congress of Canada and western representative United Brotherhood of Maintenance of Way Employees and Railway Shop Laborers, Moose Jaw, Sask.; Harry J. Halford, vice-president Trades and Labor Congress of Canada and fifth vice-president Journeymen Barbers' International Union, South Hamilton.

Mr. Gerald H. Brown has been appointed secretary of the Canadian delegation for the transaction of such business as may arise. Mr. Brown acted as secretary to the National Industrial Conference recently held in Ottawa.



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## SCOTTISH LETTER.

(Continued from page 11)

through Scotland's Unemployment Exchanges is presumed to have taken place.

## Motor Agent's Union.

Not a little interest has been manifested in motoring and other circles in the nomination of a Motor Agents' Union, and some misapprehension seems to exist as to the aims and objects of the organization. It has been assumed that by organizing on trade union lines the Motor Agents' Union intended to employ trade union methods, and the assertion has been made that a strike could only be against the manufacturers or against the public. The fact that there already exists the Motor Trade Association has been urged as a reason why the new union was unnecessary. A well-known agent in the Glasgow district, however, points out that the union has been formed by the Motor Trade Association, which as a limited liability company is unable to take action of a certain nature against offending manufacturers or agents without rendering itself liable to legal proceedings. He states that the Motor Trade Association is concerned as much with the prevention of inflated prices as with the maintenance of the manufacturers' fixed prices, and claims that it has been instrumental in steadying the market by stopping supplies to dealers who were overcharging. The question of striking has never arisen, nor is it ever likely to arise, he adds. The Union's activities will be mainly, if not altogether, concerned with its members and manufacturers. The position is, that while the Motor Trade Association can make recommendations, it has no power to see that they are carried out beyond expelling its members, or asking its manufacturer members to stop supplies, and the Motor Agents' Union is simply a natural outcome of this situation, to enable it to carry its decisions to a conclusion.

## Clyde Yards' Output.

Though the number of vessels



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launched from Clyde shipbuilding yards during September was less than the previous month, the tonnage involved, was considerably higher, being the third highest for any month this year. Twenty-two vessels of 63,300 tons left the slip, compared with 29 vessels of 52,181 tons for August and 17 vessels of 56,848 tons in September of 1914. During the last nine months the output consisted of 206 vessels with a tonnage of 415,900. In the corresponding period of 1914, 170 vessels aggregating 356,361 tons were launched.

## Great Railway Strike.

In closing my letter, last week, I referred to the ultimatum which the railwaymen had sent to the Government, and almost as soon as it was posted came the news that a strike had been declared. Hopes of a settlement were entertained to the last moment, and the public never for a moment thought that such action would be taken, and so they were quite unprepared for the confusion that followed. News day by day will be watched with interest out there, and by the time you are reading these lines the turmoil will be over. The public are not in sympathy with the railwaymen, and Mr. J. H. Thomas has been severely blamed for the action taken. It is very questionable, however, if Mr. Thomas could have restrained the men much longer. They had it in their mind that the Government had been playing with the question for too long a time. The Government took up the challenge thrown out, while the men obeyed the call to strike to a man all over the country. Scotland has been badly affected, and nearly all the stations are closed to the public until further notice. In Glasgow the military are guarding railway property, and all the electrical power stations and the gas-works.

There is a tense feeling in the country as it is realized that from this strike anything may evolve. The food supplies have been kept going. Today, however, there are signs of a break-away among the men, with the result that more trains have been run. This is to be regretted as the future of Labor is involved in this strike. Whatever the opinion may be on the merits of the strike, and the principle at stake, there are grave dangers to be faced. The decision of the Triple Alliance will be known after this letter is on its way, but if a general strike is declared anything may happen. It will probably be a fight to a finish against the Government.

James Gibson.

## The Fifth Sunday Meeting Association of Canada

### Its Only Aim Is The Welfare of The Masses.

The people of a nation cannot advance beyond the men who make its laws, and the Fifth Sunday Meeting Association of Canada exists to see to it that the workers by hand and brain are directly represented in the law-making bodies of the Dominion; to find, train and elect the right men of our own class in order to secure the kind of legislation that will protect and advance the interests of the workers.

It will wage warfare on plutocracy, despotism, economic privileges, and upon all the evil forces which burden the people and rob them of that happiness of living which is their fundamental right.

It is a non-partisan educational and political association, and because of the manner in which it is organized can never become the instrument or plaything of a small group of any class, particularly of wealthy men. The aim is the attainment of true democracy.

## WE PLEDGE OURSELVES:—

To support all municipal, provincial and federal educational plans where the evident purpose is to raise the standard of education in enlightened and progressive ways; to present truthfully and fearlessly through the medium of Fifth Sunday Meetings and our own press, the "Canadian Railroader", the latest and most important political, social and industrial developments;

To advocate the abolition of property qualifications for the franchise or for election to public office; the adoption of the Initiative, Referendum and Recall, and of proportional representation in all forms of public government; universal suffrage for both sexes, on the basis of one person, one vote; the transfer of taxes from improvements, and all products of labor, to land values, incomes and inheritances;

To advocate prison reform, including introduction of the honor and segregation systems and abolition of contract labor; the enactment and rigid enforcement of child labor laws; pensions for mothers with dependent children; regulation of immigration to prevent lowering of industrial, political or social standards; development of the postal savings and parcel post systems; financial and other assistance to farmers through co-operative banks and by other means; government development of co-operative producing and trading associations for the benefit of the consumer;

To advocate extension of workmen's housing schemes and the labor bureau system; provision of technical education for every willing worker, according to his capacities; more effective inspection of buildings, factories, workshops and mines; minimum wages; a rest period of not less than a day and a half per week for every worker; government insurance of workers against sickness, injury and death; maternity benefits and old-age pensions; better Workmen's Compensation Acts; representation of the workers on all public boards and on boards for the supervision of private enterprises; union labor conditions in all government work; adequate pensions and opportunities for soldiers and their dependents;

To advocate freedom of speech and of the press, and a law compelling all newspapers and periodicals to publish in all issues a complete list of shareholders and bondholders.

"The Fifth Sunday Meeting Association of Canada" is financed entirely by its members who contribute \$2 a year in membership fees. If a local has been established in your city \$1 remains in the local treasury and the other dollar is sent by the local organization to our Dominion Headquarters, 60 Dandurand Building, Montreal, Que. In case no local has been established in your community, send the membership fee of \$2 directly to Dominion Headquarters.

The funds accumulating in the Dominion Headquarters are used for political and educational propaganda; the development of the organization; the preparation of pamphlets and leaflets and the financing of the various political campaigns where favorable opportunities develop, to elect our candidates. The treasurer is under bond and the books are audited by a firm of accountants.

An application blank will be found below. Merely fill out the application blank, buy a postal order for \$2 and send it to Dominion Headquarters. Your membership card will be forwarded by return mail. Join this great organization in the interests of education and clean politics. *Today is the day and this is the hour. Become a member now.*

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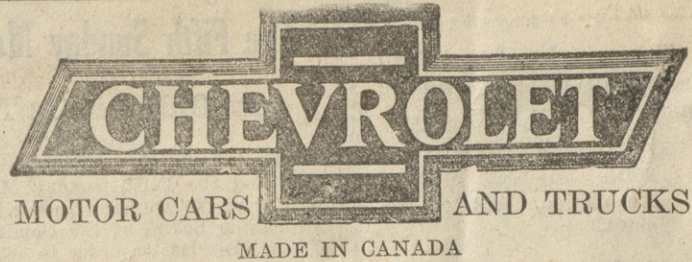
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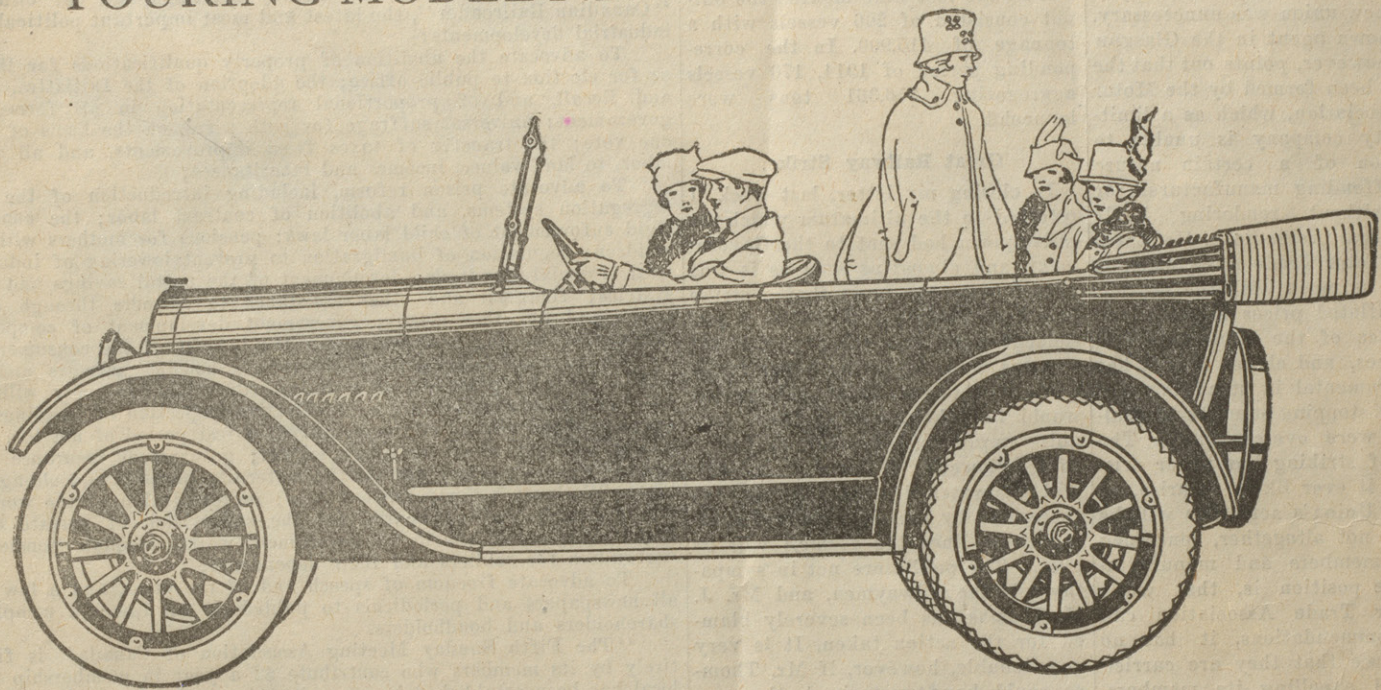
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